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CAMP LEMONIER, DJIBOUTI – Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) Commander Maj. Gen. John F. Sattler turned over command Saturday to Brig. Gen. Mastin M. Robeson, United States Marine Corps, in an evening ceremony held May 24th at the Presidential Hangar, Ambouli International Airport near the CJTF-HOA headquarters here.

Several hundred attended the ceremony, including United States Ambassador to Djibouti, Donald Y. Yamamoto, Djiboutian Presidential Cabinet Ministers, Honorary Consuls from coalition partner nations and leaders from the French Foreign Legion garrison in Djibouti and German naval forces operating from Djibouti.

Maj. Gen. Sattler, who leaves to serve as the Deputy Commander, United States Marine Forces Central Command, had commanded CJTF forces since the headquarters arrived in December to oversee counter-terrorism operations in the region for U.S. Central Command.

Under Brig. Gen. Robeson, the CJTF mission will remain focused on detecting, disrupting and defeating transnational terrorism in conjunction with coalition partners across an operating area defined as the airspace, land areas and coastal waters of Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Yemen.

This past week Robeson toured the region with Sattler, meeting with host nation governmental and military leaders in Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Yemen to discuss the future of counter-terrorism operations in the region and ensure a smooth command transition for CJTF-HOA and coalition partners across the Horn of Africa.

Robeson noted that he was pleased and encouraged by the level of cooperation and commitment to the war on terrorism among government and military leaders in the region, saying, “Our coalition team is making real progress in a fight in which we all share a common purpose and vision, the ultimate defeat of terrorism.”

Asked about his message to transnational terrorists in the region, Robeson responded, “Our coalition’s message is that our resolve to deal a crushing defeat to all terrorists and their supporters in the Horn of Africa is unflinching.”





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Robeson went on to say, “The Global War on Terrorism is a long-term fight between the forces of freedom and those seeking to spread hatred and fear. CJTF-HOA is prepared for an extended fight. We will press the fight at every turn, as long as it takes and with the help of our coalition partners, together we will win the war on terrorism in the Horn of Africa region.”

Noting the spirit of the people he met during his five-country trip, Robeson said, “Terrorism benefits no one and hurts everyone, regardless of nationality, race or religion. Terrorism is a common enemy of all peace-loving people. The vast majority of people across the region want a future that is free from the fear and repression of terrorism. I look forward to pursuing this vision with the leaders and people in the Horn of Africa region.”

Under Sattler’s command CJTF-HOA has developed a secure operating environment in Djibouti. The CJTF designed a command and control structure for executing counter-terrorism operations, developed an intelligence picture focusing those operations and built an information-sharing network with coalition partners supporting operations across the region.

In assessing progress of the operation since December, Sattler said, “Undoubtedly, terrorism remains a threat to peaceful people in the region. However, terrorists are under direct pressure from the multitude of regional and coalition partners and are certainly finding it increasingly more difficult to plan, communicate and finance their schemes of destruction.”

Sattler also had praise for Djibouti saying, “President Guelleh has been a committed partner and a key leader within the Horn of Africa region in the Global War on Terrorism. Also, the Djiboutian people have embraced coalition efforts to fight terrorism. They are a peace-loving, proud people who recognize the evils of terrorism, have taken a stand and said ‘not in our country.’ I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with the fine people of Djibouti.”

Brig. Gen. Robeson takes command of CJTF-HOA after serving as the Acting Division Commander, 2d Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C. His unique experience includes combat operations in Liberia, Kuwait/Southern Iraq (Operation Desert Storm), Somalia and Bosnia.

Robeson has served with the U.S. Marine Corps’ Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team (FAST) Company. He also served as the first Deputy Commander, 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, Anti-terrorism (4th MEB [AT]) – the U.S. Marine Corps’ standing anti-terrorism force, established after the Sep. 11, 2001 attacks in the United States. Additionally, Robeson was the Military Assistant to U.S. Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen from 1998 to 2000.





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J-1

During the month of May, the J-1 assumed permanent residence in new renovated spaces that have all the comforts of home (central air and overhead lights). The restrooms and showers are still under maintenance and are not fully operational. The J-1 spaces are occupied 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

We are processing numbers, terminating TAD orders and sending several personnel back to 2d Marine Division and other parent commands as new joins arrive daily as replacements for those that departed CONUS on 13 Nov.

The awards for the departing personnel are being processed and signed. As they are completed they will be forwarded to each person's parent command for Presentation.

We are saying farewell to Lt. Sean P. Finnerty as he departs the J-1 office.

Welcome aboard goes out to the J-1 Director, Col. Stone W. Quillian (USMC) and Plans Officer, Lt. Robert C. Francis (USN). They reported aboard 31 May 03.

J-2

Naval Reservist's Entire Family Serving on Active Duty

*By: Chief Journalist Maria Gonzalez,
Commander, Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs*

NEW ORLEANS - Yeoman (YN) 2nd Class Pauline Krumrey is a Naval Reservist, currently mobilized and serving on active duty. In fact, her entire family is serving on active duty. The Krumrey's of New Richmond, Wisc., are members of the Naval Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve and the Marine Corps.

YN2 Krumrey drills with Joint Intelligence Command Pacific Detachment 0178, a unit attached to Naval Reserve Center Minneapolis. She has been mobilized twice since Sept. 11, 2001, the first for Operation Noble Eagle to serve in the mobilization center at Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command in New Orleans.



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She was demobilized and returned to Wisconsin, but quickly received a second call to active duty. Again she was called upon to serve in the mobilization center in New Orleans.

Master Gunnery Sgt. Mark Krumrey is her husband. As a Marine Corps Reservist, he was recalled from retirement in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom after serving a 30-year Marine career.

He is currently at Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he serves as the intelligence chief with the II Marine Expeditionary Force unit. He will soon deploy to the Horn of Africa for a six-month contract.

"I plan to stay on active-duty as long as possible," Master Gunnery Sgt. Krumrey said. "I really enjoy serving my country."

The Krumreys' son is Private first class (Pfc) John Krumrey. He is serving on active-duty in the Marine Corps. The 19-year-old is currently attending diesel mechanic school at Camp Lejeune and is set to graduate in June.

"We are both stationed at Camp Lejeune, so we get to see each other several times a week," Master Gunnery Sgt. Krumrey said.

"This is normal to me, our whole family being on active duty. The only difference is that people take note of us more often," Pfc. Krumrey said.





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J-3

Greetings from Camp Lemonier, Djibouti. The month of May kept the J-3 busy as we transitioned ashore, participated in the CJTF-HOA Change of Command ceremony, and welcomed the following units to the HOA: Company C, 4th Battalion, 31st Regiment, 10th Mountain Division; C-20 Detachment VR-48; Detachment, 478th Civil Affairs Battalion; Detachment, 916th Engineers (Well Drillers); all of which provide CJTF-HOA additional organic operational reach and flexibility in support of a wide variety of counter-terrorism activities across the Horn of Africa region.

The Operations Section coordinated the following training evolutions: first level Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training for Djiboutian soldiers from the Force Action Rapid (FAR) Battalion; and our Small Craft Detachment conducted small boat handling and tactics instruction to Djiboutian naval forces.

We continued our partnership building via our participation in the following events/meetings: Maj. Gen. Sattler and Brig. Gen. Robeson recently concluded a five-day official turnover tour/visit to Yemen, Kenya, Ethiopia and Eritrea, meeting with government and military officials in all countries to discuss ongoing efforts and progress in the Global War on Terrorism. The leaders agreed that the war on terrorism is a long-term effort requiring a commitment to action and discussed the future of military activities as a means of applying more direct pressure on transnational terrorist networks in the region. Our participation in these evolutions, as well as our continued local humanitarian efforts further enhance our credibility in building partnerships and relations that continue to aid us in fighting the GWOT.

Some of our ongoing humanitarian missions are; the construction of a new irrigation system, providing medical assistance through a Medical Civil Action Program (MEDCAP), and delivering books, medical supplies and clothes to a Muslim non-government organization

The J-3 bids farewell to the following individuals: Col. J.L. Durrant (USMC), Lt. Col. R.L. McLaughlin (USA); Maj. T.S. Cronin (USMC); Capt. P.A. Walter (USMC); MSgt. D.A. Reid (USMC); GySgt. G.A. Johnson (USMC); ACG. M.J. Horn (USN); Sgt. Z.O. Spicer (USMC); and Cpl. P.H. Pearson (USMC).

The J-3 welcomed aboard the following individuals: COL. R.B. Duff (USA), Director of Operations; Col. J.H. Williams (USMC), CENTCOM LNO; Lt. Col. L.J. Oliver (USMC), CFACC LNO; Cmdr. J.S. Miller (USN), Maritime Coordination Element (MCE) OIC; Lt Cmdr. R.J. Haberlin (USN), MCE Air Operations Watch Officer; LT. B.J. Baumer (USN), MCE Maritime Watch Officer; Maj. P.C. Rosser (USA), Psychological Operations Officer; Capt. C.S. Ieva (USMC), Request for Information Manager; Capt. J.S. McDermott (USMC), Electronic Warfare Planner; Lt. R.E. Thompson (USN), Maritime Watch Officer; GySgt. R.E. Hutchings (USMC), JOC Admin SNCO; GySgt. J.P. Chino, Jr., (USMC), NBCD Chief; OS2 M.L. Barnes (USN), JOC Common Operational Picture Manager; Cpl. Z.S. Mays (USMC), JOC Journal Clerk; Cpl. A.J. Otero (USMC), JOC Journal Clerk; LCpl. J.E. Cobb (USMC), Range/Training NCO; and LCpl. M. Day (USMC), JOC Journal Clerk.

To Maj. Gen. Sattler and Sgt. Maj. Morgan, we wish you "Fair winds and following seas" in all future endeavors. Semper Fidelis!

Don't forget to check the CJTF-HOA website @ www.cjtfhoa.centcom.mil for the latest news and information from our Public Affairs office (web site courtesy of your J-3, IM section).



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J-4

"Movement and Transportation"

The J-4 section has made its final move from the USS Mount Whitney to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti. We would like to say welcome aboard to our newest members, and that we are looking forward to working with all of them.

Those new to us are Lt. Col. Glen Reinhold, Material Readiness Officer; Maj. James Flanders, Logistics Operation Officer; Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Armstrong, Contracting Officer; Lt. Cmdr. Romeo Coleman, Department Engineer Officer; Lt. Cmdr. Douglas Bridges, Operations and Plans Officer; Lt. David Rhone, Logistics Plans Officer; AK1 Jeffrey Warden, Aviation Readiness Chief; SK1 Wayne Rodgers Expeditor; and Cpl. Douglas Fox, Logistics NCO.

During the month of May Lt. Col. John Lopez, BOS Executive Officer; Maj. Patrick Hittle, BOS Logistics Officer; Maj. Wayne Cox, Material Readiness Officer; Maj. Joseph Hottendorf, Lt. Cmdr. Shaun Ostrowski, Chief John Lopez, Coalition Officer; Maj. Collas, Lt. Carlos Winston, Surface Transportation Officer; MGySgt. Jose Gomes, Engineer Chief; AKI Jim Shumake, Aviation Readiness Chief; Cpl. Robert Pinkley, Logistics NCO; and Lance Cpl. Jonathon Burkart, Logistics Admin Clerk have left the J4 family and gone back to the United States to continue their work in the Military. We would like to say thank-you for all the hard work they have done since coming to the Horn Of Africa, and wish them all the luck.

Capt. Jody Chalich and MSgt. David Jeska are still hard at work keeping track of all personnel coming and going to Djibouti and the different Countries in the Horn of Africa. GySgt. Stephen Mobley is working on the Logistics situations for the J4 and conducting Logistics observations throughout the Horn of Africa. Lance Corporal's Ryan Dunn and Dontellius White are keeping busy with different Guard Duties throughout Camp Lemonier.

GySgt. Mark (Toby) Tobias is conducting observations and de-mining operations throughout the country of Eritrea.

Maj. Jake Pelletier, along with the rest of the Engineer Section, is hard at work conducting survey and assessments throughout the country of Djibouti.

The Material Readiness Section has been busy getting a handle on all supplies, and new equipment coming into Base. New furniture for all buildings are still coming in on a daily basis and looking great. Tech Sgt. Herrera is working hard on issues that pertain to Supply and Open Purchases.

Sgt. Stephen Tongue is hard at work helping with the daily J4 Slides. Capt. Erwin Wunderlich, and Lt. Steven Furda are hard at work in the Operations and Plans section of the J4.

Professional Military Education (PME) is conducted weekly to keep us updated on all new activities so we can assist other countries throughout the Horn of Africa.

Capt. Steven Lengquist, and SSgt. Juan Patino are keeping track of all Ammo issues for Camp Lemonier.



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J-5

"Plans, Policy, Liaison and Travel"

The month of May brought many new faces to Djibouti as we all departed the Mighty Mount Whitney and moved into our quarters in Beautiful Camp Lemonier. During May several of our team rotated home or on to new adventures. Lt. Cmdr. Kathleen Miranda went home to Corpus Christi and got married on 17 May. Lt. Col. Mark Lundy went home to Ft. Lewis WA to begin his transition to civilian life as he retires in August. Lt. Col. Knight returned to Camp LeJeune as he assumes command in June. Maj. Blaylock returned to Tampa to his home unit of SOCCENT. Lt. Gerry Santiago left to join his ship in San Diego as he begins another cruise with the *USS RENTZ* on 16 June. Sgt. Raper and Lance Cpl. Anderson went home to CLNC as their replacements arrived in Djibouti. They departed as part of the initial wave of those rotating back to their home stations. We knew the departures were coming so the farewells went smoothly and we began to welcome new faces and other new and interesting ideas. We would like to say adios to our former comrades and shipmates and welcome aboard to our newest members, and that we are looking forward to working with all of them.

Those new to the J-5 are Lt. Col. Gary Cook- SOF planner, Maj. Dean Chang- Country desk officer, Lt. Col. Mark Wriggle, Maj. Jim Desy, Maj. Vic Bezjian and Maj. Mary McCarthy- Country Coordination Element officers, and Lance Cpl. Ryan McIntosh J-5 plans clerk. All these rotations happened during May! Beside that, we moved ashore and got a new Commanding General. All these changes go to prove the adage, "only change remains constant."

The schedule of travel throughout the Horn of Africa countries remains steady for the CG and various staff personnel. Working those issues remains a steady task. The J-5 did some interesting work with Sudan as shown in articles printed around the world when a C-130 aircraft landed in Khartoum. The article ran for days and brought much credit to CJTF-HOA and set the conditions for future successes with regard to improving relations with the country of Sudan.

All J-5 hands keep busy with their daily chores but working in the refurbished, air conditioned offices makes life easy as long as the power remains on. Running the Camp off Djiboutian power has its moments. Trying to sleep in a tent without air conditioning remains a challenge. The chow and other amenities of life in Camp Lemonier continue to amuse and entertain us. We are all doing fine and our morale remains high. These are good days to be wearing the Uniform in the United States Armed Forces. Semper Fi from the land of hot and humid.



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CJTF-HOA helps mend rift between U.S. and Sudan

Byline: Cpl. Andrew W. Miller

KHARTOUM, SUDAN- Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa landed a United States military aircraft in Sudan May 17 to receive nine safes intended for the task force. This is the first time a U.S. aircraft has landed in Sudan in 10 years, according to U.S. Army Col. Dennis Giddens, a defense liaison officer.

The task force members also delivered a Land Rover from Eritrea to the U.S. Embassy in Sudan.

A C130 Hercules airplane transported CJTF- HOA service members to Khartoum International Airport (KIA), where it was met by Giddens and a number of Sudanese military officers.

The opportunity for CJTF-HOA personnel to visit Sudan highlights progress toward improving the overall relationship between the U.S. and Sudan.



According to Giddens, native of Jacksonville, Fla., the deterioration of the relationship between the United States and Sudan began in 1989 when an Islamic regime came to power. Shortly afterward, several terrorist organizations found Sudan to be a safe haven, and Osama Bin Laden lived there from 1993 to approximately 1996.

At that time, Giddens said, the United States downsized the embassy and terminated their assistance to Sudan. No U.S. military aircraft has been there since 1993.

However, important changes have been made and relationships are being renewed, according to Giddens. Approximately one year ago, the Sudanese government began working to invite the United States back into their country.



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Recently, Sudan has also been proactive in the war against terrorism, working to deny terrorists safe havens and means to operate, Giddens said.

The government recently jailed Hassan Turabi, the Sudanese leader, who in 1993, allowed Bin Laden and other terrorists to operate here.

“Today is an important part of history,” said Sudanese Army Capt. Hidar Mohamad Ahmd Mokhtar, ministry of defense protocol. “Everyone in the airport was talking excitedly asking when the Americans were going to arrive.”

The U.S. aircrew recognized the importance of the event as well.

“To think that this is the first time in 10 years that any of us have landed here makes this trip very special,” said U.S. Air Guard Capt. Chadwick Q. Hilde, C-130 aircraft commander. “We hope today will allow them to see that we have to support each other in the war against terrorism in order to prevent terrorist attacks on other people’s soil, and we can come back on a regular basis to help eradicate terrorists in this location.”

Giddens, who was instrumental in the ceasefire negotiation between the Sudanese People’s Liberation Movement Nuba Mountains and the Sudanese government in Jan. 19, 2002, was chosen to come back to this area by the Secretary of Defense, Donald H. Rumsfeld, because of his experience in the area.

“I am very proud of our accomplishments with the government here,” said Giddens. “Landing here today is symbolic because what pushed our two countries apart 10 years ago is now pulling us together and that is the war against terrorism.”





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J-6

May has come and gone and we've been very busy. The Commander and staff of the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) transitioned ashore to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, ahead of schedule. The USS Mount Whitney sailed back to the US and Major General Sattler turned over command to Brigadier General Robeson.

We're fully established ashore and operating up to our capabilities. We've designed and built a "commercial" communications capability on Camp Lemonier that allows the Commander of the CJTF-HOA to command his forces.

Our coalition partners (Kenyans, French, Yemenis, Romanians, Italians, Djiboutians, and Ethiopians) are integrating very well with us here and we are learning many things from each other. The most interesting are the East African coalition partners--specifically the Kenyans!! Lt. Col. Sam Kamau, a Kenyan Navy Officer, is working in the CJ-6 section and is here in Camp Lemonier along with several of his fellow Kenyan officers. He was educated in England, served in several distinguished jobs and most recently commanded one of the seven ships in the Kenyan navy. Swahili is the official language in Kenya but the official language for government communication is English. Lt. Col. Kamau speaks both very well. We are learning some Swahili words. Most of us probably do not realize it, but we already speak some Swahili if we have small children and have watched Timon and Pumba in *Lion King*. "Hakuna matata" is Swahili for "no problems".

We received several new people in the last six weeks or so: Lt. Col. Shirley, MGySgt. Apriesnig, Cpl. Danner, LCpl. Hendrix and LCpl. Skelton. We said goodbye to LtCol. Pagel, LtCol. Smith, Maj. Lambert, GySgt. Pufall, Chief Welch, Cpl. Olin, LCpl. Gribbin, LCpl. Klehm, and LCpl. Allen. Despite the changes, operations continue to run smoothly.

Most everyone is settling in to routines in Djibouti with regular scheduled work periods, some time off and exercise. Camp Lemonier celebrated Memorial Day by having a picnic lunch on Monday. Although most worked that day, we did take time to break for the meal celebration and the moments of remembrance for those who sacrificed much for our freedoms and safety. This includes all of our families.

Morale is still high. There's a bit more to do on the camp and in Djibouti. Some CJ-6 personnel are getting closer to rotating home but everyone is staying busy. Besides the normal organized chaos of daily work we've had three people find time to do charitable work. Chief Newell, Lt. Schuh and Capt. Kauffman volunteered to feed infant children in the Catholic orphanage.

The weather is still hot and getting hotter. The temp in Djibouti is supposed to only be 60 degrees in July and August--that is 60 degrees Celsius, 140 degrees Fahrenheit!! This should be a very memorable summer.



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PRAISE THE LORD!

Your new Chaplain Staff has reported aboard. Chaplain Hal Scott from MCAS Miramar, San Diego, reported 18 May; RP1 John Caudle, a reservist from Northumberland, PA, reported 25 April; and our newest addition is RP2 Donnie Roland, from MCCDC, Quantico, VA, who reported on Saturday, 31 May. Our fondest farewell goes to Chaplain Don Lerow, our founding Chaplain, as he reports back to 2 Division at Camp Lejeune, NC. Thanks for the great foundation left behind by those who served before us.

The Chaplain Department has been busy adjusting to life ashore at Camp Lemonier. We have been visiting with many Non-Governmental Agencies (NGOs) and have conducted many Community Relations projects (ComRel) in order to get to know the local population. We have been working alongside Chaplain Klose, the camp chaplain, in visiting orphanages, feeding babies, and playing soccer with local young athletes.

As much as we enjoy working with the community, our primary concern is the spiritual well-being of our forces here in the area of responsibility (AOR). We are offering worship services, prayer, bible studies, and are visiting our personnel in their workspaces. We are proud of all their hard work and inspiring to see them in action.

As I have been reflecting on our mission here, this verse came to mind: "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever." (Ps. 118:1) When we look around here at the refugees and the living conditions of many of the local people, we readily recognize how much we have been blessed here at Camp and back home. Normal things we take for granted, such as the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, education, and even drinking water are luxuries to them. God has indeed been good to us, despite the hardships of separation we experience.

Let us look at our current circumstances through the eyes of faith. Whenever we give thanks to the Lord, our focus immediately shifts from our problems to our blessings. We can't smile and be grouchy at the same time. Each and every day, one moment at a time, we can make a difference in our lives and the lives of those around us by looking up rather than feeling down. The choice is ours. We can't always choose our environment, but we can choose our response. Know that your Chaplain Department here at CJTF-HOA believes in prayer. We are proud to be here, believe in our mission, and have your concerns, and concerns of your family members here in our mind and in our prayers. God bless you as we continue this journey together.



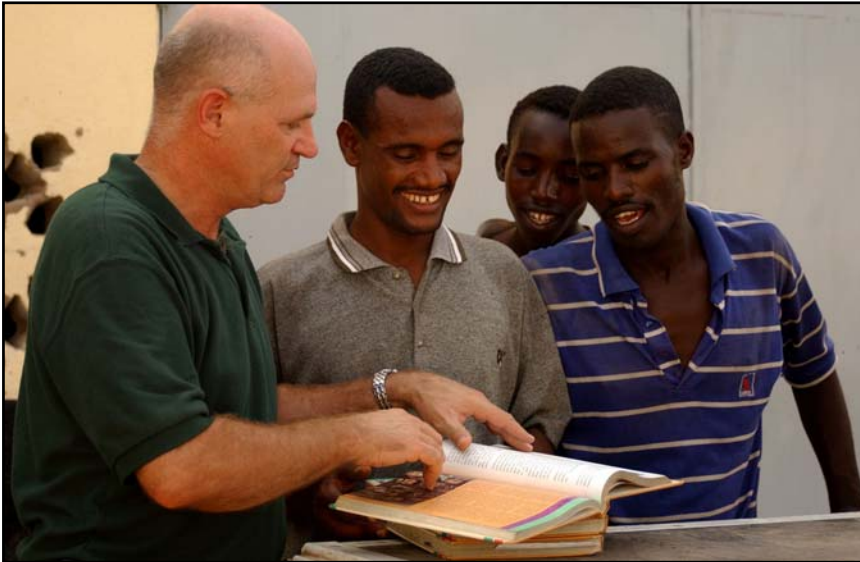
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CJTF-HOA chaplain spreads goodwill to Djiboutians

By Cpl. Paula M. Fitzgerald



DJIBOUTI CITY – The Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa chaplain facilitated a delivery of books, medical supplies and clothes to Bender Djedid, a Muslim non-government organization here, May 21.

A key element of CJTF-

HOA's counter-terrorism mission lies in making a positive difference in the lives of the people in the region as well as their environment.

The items were donated by the U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp, which is an official program established in 1962 to promote mutual understanding, respect and goodwill through direct person-to-person contact between Americans and citizens from other countries.

Project Handclasp collects materials of goodwill from private donors then transports the items to foreign areas where U.S. service members distribute the goods to the needy.

"We received all of the materials from the Handclasp warehouse located at Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy," said Navy Capt. Donald F. Lerow, CJTF-HOA chaplain. "After getting together with representatives from the task force, we were able to decide the best place to take the stuff."

During the visit to Bender Djedid, Lerow and Petty Officer 1st Class John J. Caudle, religious program specialist supporting CJTF-HOA, dropped off a truckload of materials.

Mohamed Mahyoub Hatem, the NGO's president, said, "We rely very heavily on the donations of outside





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entities. Most all of our projects are funded by charities of different countries.”

According to Hatem, the mission of Bender Djedid is “to rid Djibouti of poverty.” In order to accomplish this mission, Hatem said the books will be used to teach many of the local children and adults. Approximately, 50 preschool-age kids attend school inside the Bender Djedid building.

As Lerow and Hatem agreed during their meeting, “The single best way to make the future of Djibouti bright is to educate her people.”

The medical supplies will be used to treat the residents living near the facility.

In the end, the chaplain explained that this visit benefited both CJTF-HOA and the people of Djibouti.

Lerow said, “Community relations projects like Handclasp show the residents of Djibouti that we want to be good neighbors and we want to help them because then they genuinely want to help us when we need it.





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Staff Judge Advocate

The month of May brought a lot of change to the SJA shop. Capt. Jimmy Vaughan rotated back to 2d Marine Division. He will take some leave and then PCS to Monterey, CA to attend the Foreign Area Officer course. He and his family will then go to Greece. Capt. Vaughan had a great three-year tour at Division and will be missed. We wish the Vaughan family “fair winds and following seas” on their journey across country.

Sergeant Brian McMahan, our court reporter, returned to Camp Lejeune, NC and his duties at the Legal Service Support Section. Sgt. McMahan shouldered the duties as legal chief from the beginning of the deployment in November until SSgt. Mark Master arrived in April. Sgt. McMahan did an outstanding job and will be missed.

Our remaining SJA team members, Lt. Col. Scott Jack, Capt. Jack Dever, Capt. Erick Ottoson and Cpl. Ronald Ballew, have been busy. The team transitioned ashore on 12 May 2003, where they worked out of a tent for two weeks and just completed the welcomed transition to a renovated building. The team is busy serving clients and preparing the files for turnover in July to a new SJA and two new attorneys.

Civil Affairs



CJTF-HOA Builds needed irrigation system

By: Cpl. Matthew J. Appendi

SUD AMBOULI, Djibouti - A team of soldiers from the 478th Civil Affairs Company (Special Operations), here in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, began constructing of a new irrigation system here May 19.

The project's goals are to construct a water system capable of irrigating the village's farmland and provide an easily accessible water source for the villagers.



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To accomplish these goals, the team is constructing a pump house to draw water from the local well to a cistern, or water holding area. From there, the valuable commodity will have the ability to circulate through their farmlands via water pipes.

They currently transport water to their farmland by donkey after manually drawing it out of a well.

The team utilized a cistern erected by the French military in 1993 as a foundation and added a frame and roof to house the new cistern.

They accomplished this feat with the helping hands of the Djiboutians here, who filled the old cistern full of rocks, creating a flat, sturdy starting point for the new cistern.

Building a strong relationship between Djibouti and the U.S. is an important factor because it shows we are here for them -- in return, they'll be here for us, said Maj. Julian Garvin, team leader of the project.

"This (the project) is where the war on terrorism is going to be won," said the Hollywood, Fla. native.

"They're a bunch of motivated people. They prepped the whole site by digging all the trenches where we will place the water pipes," said Sgt. Leon LaBranch, the lead engineer for the project, who hails from Loxahatchee, Fla.



The villagers not only help with the prepping of the project, they also work with the civil affairs team daily -- measuring, sawing and hammering to construct the new facility.

"I'm very thankful for the U.S.'s help. This new irrigation system will not only improve our present farmland, but it will also give us the capability to expand," said Omar Farah Debar, the village chief.

These farmlands provide them with the bulk of their food. They grow an assortment of produce to include melons, mangos and squash.

This is one many efforts the 478th Civil Affairs Company, who arrived here nearly one month ago, is involved with. They bring with them an array of talents to the east Africa region to include dentists, doctors and veterinarians.

The 478th CAC is here supporting CJTF-HOA whose area of operations include Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Eritrea and Yemen. They plan to engage in number of civil military operations such as dental and medical clinics for people across the region

Garvin said, "The whole company is fired up and ready to complete their mission here."